

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 72, 73, 78, 79, 97 and 98 as indicated below:

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72. (Twice Amended) A fertile transgenic *Zea mays* plant having an increased starch content, the genome of which is stably augmented by a preselected DNA sequence encoding an RNA molecule which is substantially identical, or complementary, to an mRNA encoding a 19kD or a 22kD α -zein plant seed storage protein, wherein the preselected DNA sequence is expressed in the cells of the transgenic plant in an amount sufficient to decrease the amount of said seed storage protein and increase starch content in the cells of a plant which only differ from the cells of said transgenic plant in that said preselected DNA sequence is absent, and wherein said preselected DNA sequence is transmitted through a complete normal sexual cycle of the transgenic plant to the next generation.
73. (Twice Amended) A fertile transgenic *Zea mays* plant, the seeds of which have an increased starch extractability, the genome of said plant which is stably augmented by a preselected DNA sequence encoding an RNA molecule which is substantially identical, or complementary, to an mRNA encoding a 19kD or a 22kD α -zein plant seed storage protein, wherein the preselected DNA sequence is expressed in the seeds of the transgenic plant in an amount sufficient to decrease the amount of said seed storage protein and increase the starch extractability of the seed relative to the amount of said seed storage protein and starch extractability in the seeds of a plant which only differ from the seeds of said transgenic plant in that said preselected DNA sequence is absent, and wherein said preselected DNA sequence is transmitted through a complete normal sexual cycle of the transgenic plant to the next generation.
- 13 78. (Twice Amended) A seed derived from the plant of claim 72 or 73, wherein the seed comprises said preselected DNA sequence.
79. (Twice Amended) A progeny plant derived from the seed of claim 78, wherein the plant comprises said preselected DNA sequence.

97. (Amended) A method of producing a *Zea mays* seed with an increased starch content, comprising:

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- (a) growing a transgenic *Zea mays* plant, the genome of which is augmented with a preselected DNA sequence encoding an RNA molecule which is substantially identical, or complementary to an mRNA encoding a 19kD or a 22kD α -zein seed storage protein, wherein the preselected DNA sequence is expressed in the cells of the *Zea mays* plant in an amount sufficient to decrease the amount of seed storage protein; and
 - (b) selecting a seed from the transgenic *Zea mays* plant, wherein the seed has an increased amount of starch relative to the amount of starch in a seed selected from a plant which does not comprise said preselected DNA sequence.

98. (Amended) A method of obtaining starch from a *Zea mays* seed, comprising:

- (a) growing a transgenic *Zea mays* plant, the genome of which is augmented with a preselected DNA sequence encoding an RNA molecule which is substantially identical, or complementary, to an mRNA encoding a 19kD or a 22kD α -zein seed storage protein, wherein the preselected DNA sequence is expressed in the cells of the *Zea mays* plant in an amount sufficient to decrease the amount of seed storage protein;
- (b) obtaining seed from said plant; and
- (c) extracting starch from the seed.